



THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF MOTHERS MAGAZINE

Vol. III.

OCTOBER, 1908

No. 2

"For the Welfare of the Child"

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THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

PLAY FOR CHILDREN

The National Playground Association which met in New York in September for the purpose of arousing cities and towns to their duty in providing accessible playgrounds, marks an epoch in an important field of work for children. It was clearly shown by the experience of many that juvenile crime decreased fifty per cent. where children have playgrounds. It was also argued that playgrounds should be on the plan of every city, and that it is a legitimate expense to be met by the taxpayers. Chicago is in the lead as a city in the provision for adults as well as children. Every Mothers' Circle would do well to appoint a Play Committee whose duty it would be to see that the children in that vicinity have suitable opportunities for wholesome play. Private ground can often be given for temporary use, and many good things have been taken over by the city after having been proved valuable by private enterprise.

The Sage Foundation by its liberal gift to the Playground Association has enabled it to promote its great work far more rapidly than would have been possible otherwise. Every friend of the children will rejoice at the recognition of a vital need of childhood.

**ONE WAY
TO HELP
CHILDREN**

During the past summer, a lady whose summer home was in the country invited two probation officers to bring the children under their charge to spend the day with her. About thirty boys supposedly among the worst in the city, were the guests. Three large cherry trees were reserved for their entertainment, and no happier children were ever seen than these when told they might get all they wanted. Strong paper bags were provided for each so that they might take some home. A

substantial mid-day dinner, and games followed. No one could believe these were the incorrigible boys that had been such a trial in the city. The probation officers said that one day brought them nearer to the children than months of visiting had done. Another kind hearted woman offered the hospitality of her home to ten boys for one day every week, and gave a generous dinner, and a genuine loving interest which was a stimulus to do better.

An important principle is demonstrated by these instances. One can only guide children by meeting them on their own plane, which in childhood is play, and leading them through the friendly relations there established to higher things.

How many thousands of women could help children as these women did, if they only thought to do it! It is such a little thing to do, in comparison with the good it can accomplish. Every woman with a home, however small it may be, has a great opportunity for service if she will look around her, and even once make a happy hour or day for children whose lives know little pleasure. Through love we reach the children. Love opens the door of the heart and once opened, wonderful are the things which follow.

PREVENTION OF CONTAGIOUS DISEASES

THE GOLDEN RULE FOR MOTHERS

An Alabama mother writes: "I ask your influence in instituting measures for checking an evil that is a menace to the children of every community, viz.: spread of contagious diseases. It is a sad fact that *mothers* are chiefly to blame for existing conditions and the peril of public places for children; but herein lies our hope if mothers can be aroused.

"Every child is in danger of contagious diseases, whooping-cough, measles, scarlet fever, etc., when on trains, street cars, in hotels, schools, parks or summer resorts. It is strange but true that in many places children attend school with whooping-cough, and travel on trains with that and even more serious diseases.

"I have been a sufferer from this ignorance or indifference, having lost a child with scarlet fever and one with whooping-cough; in each case the disease being brought to us through the carelessness of a mother."

A campaign of education for the masses, impressing on them the criminality of killing one's neighbor's children, would go far toward remedying the evil. Physicians should do their part in teaching people the precautions necessary. School boards and boards of health should be responsible for their respective schools and communities.

If the spread of contagious diseases could be checked, many lives would be saved and you would receive the "God bless you" of thousands of mothers.

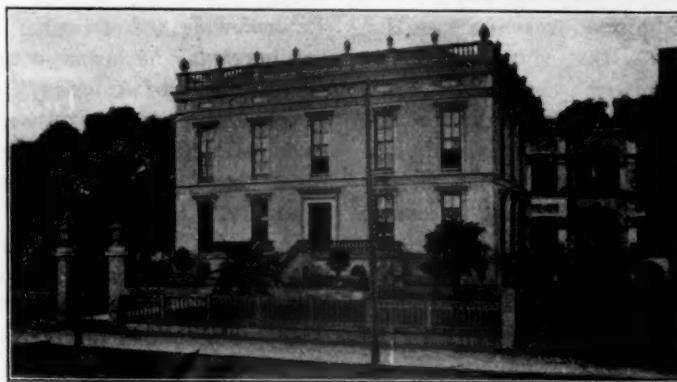
The sad experience of the mother whose own sorrow leads her to save other mothers' children is a very common one. Many mothers will guard their own children, but think nothing of guarding other people's children.

Other mothers have not informed themselves as to the symptoms of children's diseases and will permit their children to go among other children when it is not safe for them to do so. Children who have sore throats, colds,

fever, headache or coughs should be kept apart from others. Especially is it important not to permit children, when they have recovered from scarlet fever, diphtheria or other contagious diseases, to associate with others or to return to school too soon.

In many towns the Board of Health is strict about this, but in other places, where no laws exist, it should be a matter of conscience for a mother to practice the Golden Rule, and to take no risks of spreading disease in other homes.

The subject is one that affects the entire community and "What Mothers can do to Prevent Contagious Diseases," should be on the program of every Mothers' Circle.



*Sophie Newcomb College, New Orleans
Louisiana Congress of Mothers organized here, 1907*

New Orleans for National Congress, February, 1909

This will be the first time that the National Congress of Mothers will meet in the South.

Mrs. Theodore W. Birney was a Southern woman, and one of her dearest wishes was to see Southern mothers organized for the study and protection of Southern children. Georgia and Louisiana have State Congresses. In nearly every Southern State there are Circles and individual

members of the Congress. The problems of childhood in the South can be solved better by the organized motherhood of the South than by outsiders who are not conversant with all the conditions.

Every State can help by sending its President to New Orleans. Every Mothers' Circle or Parents' Association can give and receive inspiration by sending a delegate.

Children of Hungary

D. R. PHILIPP ROTTENBILLER

(Sent by Hungary to International Congress on Welfare of the Child)

It is a matter of great regret to the Hungarian Ministers that they are not able to contribute personally to the noble work of this National Congress of Mothers, but I am appointed to convey to you the greetings of the Hungarian Government, and to wish to your Congress every success that the noble task that you have undertaken deserves.

Your kind invitation was especially welcomed by the Hungarian Government, as an opportunity was thereby afforded to express a long-felt sense of gratitude in living speech.

Two years ago the Hungarian Government collected from various States the material in point, touching on the protection of children and the prevention of criminality among juveniles. In response to our requisition sent broadcast to all civilized countries we have received abundant *material* from everywhere, yet from *one source alone* of all this wide world were *heart* and *soul* placed at our disposal, and that was the "National Congress of Mothers" in Philadelphia. "In any way that we can be of service to Hungary, we shall gladly do so, for the welfare of the children of Hungary is as dear to us as that of the children of our own land. We are all children of one Father"—were the very touching words with which Mrs. Frederic Schoff, the President of the Congress, closed her accompanying letter, and with which she also won at one stroke the unceasing gratitude of our Nation.

You see, the invocation, said by his eminence, the Right Reverend Bishop of Washington, on occasion of opening the conference of the National Congress of Mothers, 1905, "God grant that the work your Congress of Mothers is doing, may be propagated far and wide, that echoes of what you say here may be heard in households in every part of America," is fulfilled in still wider sense. It was heard even over the ocean in the far-off little, but ambitious Kingdom of Hungary.

In your Congress, one of the first principles is the religious education of the child in the home, I may confess openly that in the fact, also, that the aid of the National Congress of Mothers was so lovingly offered to Hungarian children I see a new proof of Heavenly Providence.

It was many hundred years ago when our first king, Saint Stephen (who gave the first constitution to our country and converted the people from Paganism to Christianity), lost his only son. Concerned about the future of his country, the same king, before his death, in fervent prayer confided his people to the protection of the Holy Mother. You see how long Hungary has enjoyed the kindly protection of the High Heavenly Mother, whom we refer to in all our prayers as the High Lady and Patroness Saint of Hungary.

In the many wars which Hungary, as the bulwark of western civilization, was compelled to wage against the

heathen Orient, her armies were always led in the battle under standards bearing the likeness of the Holy Mother of God, and these standards have ever led to victory, and I am convinced that at this time, too, in the "Century of the Child," as we enter with all our might upon a warfare to prevent criminality among juveniles and save so many of them from utter ruin and destruction, the benign intervention of the Heavenly Mother manifested itself in the receipt on our part of so encouraging a message from the National Congress of Mothers, of Philadelphia, just at a time when we stood before the threshold of far-reaching reforms on this subject.

For this message I should not only convey heartfelt thanks, but should report to you briefly, without overtaxing your patience, that the data and information you so kindly transmitted to us reached a well-prepared, fertile soil. Though the care of children years ago was a much-neglected subject, the Hungarian Government and society in the last ten years diligently have labored to create institutions and laws which are intended to save from destruction and insure full bodily and moral growth to the child.

In the first place, State institutions were placed at the disposal of the cause of juvenile protection. The Department of Home Affairs maintains State Asylums where neglected and dependent children are cared for and educated until they are 15 years of age; whereas the Department of Justice maintains Reformatories where delinquent children receive supplemental education and industrial or agricultural training up to 20 years of age.

The basic principle of the institution of children's asylums (which were brought into existence pursuant to Articles VIII and XXI, of the laws of the year 1901) is that all destitute children under 15 years of age who have no relatives obliged and able to care for and educate them, and for whose maintenance and education relatives, benefactors, benevolent organizations or societies do not provide sufficiently, be declared "abandoned" and must be received in the State Children's Asylums. All children declared abandoned are first received in State Asylums, but these asylums (17 in number) are places where only nursing babes and children subjected to medical treatment are kept in the hospital connected with the asylum. The majority of the children received, however, are directly turned over to proper foster parents. At the head of the asylum there is a physician-in-chief-superintendent, assisted by a competently trained personnel.

Besides the management of the asylum, there is the further duty incumbent on the physician-in-chief-superintendent to designate such cities and communities about the asylum where *children's colonies* can be founded for the reception of such healthy children as cannot remain at the asylum. In this respect the climatic and territorial conditions of the particular place, also the question whether there is a competent physician, a nursery (kindergarten) and proper schools and whether there are in the place at least 30 responsible families able to receive children, are the decisive factors. The colony is managed by a physician, but the children are as far as possible placed

separately with the various families. The foster parents receive a monthly fee for maintenance, the extent of which varies in accordance with conditions, but on an average does not exceed 8 crowns per month.

At present there are in the whole of Hungary 335 colonies and there are altogether 35,000 children in State custody. Inasmuch as in Hungary guardianship matters are not in the province of the courts but of the so-called Orphan-Boards, the latter are called upon in the proper cases to declare children "abandoned." The Orphan-Boards are constituted from amongst the elected officials of the autonomous municipalities.

In exceptionally urgent cases the physician-in-chief-superintendent of the Asylum is authorized to provisionally receive the child even before its being declared "abandoned" by the authorities.

Until October 1st of last year many children in urgent need of State protection were not the recipients of this benefaction, because the authorities caused their reception in the Asylum only in case of their actual utter abandonment.

The present Minister for Home Affairs, Count Andressy, abated this evil by imposing on the proper authorities in his decree of last year, the duty to receive every child under 15 years of age, without regard to the extent of protection it requires.

There is therefore to-day no destitute, abandoned child, in need of protection, under 15 years of age, who could not in a pressing case gain admission at once in a Royal Hungarian State Children's Asylum.

The physician-in-chief-superintend-

ent of these institutions is, pursuant to the decree of Count Andressy required to provisionally admit every child in need of protection, upon the request of charitable bodies and even of private persons, and the Orphan-Boards are required to expedite the declaration of children as "abandoned."

The control of the State education of children is governed by a system whose fundamental idea involves the coöperation of State and social activities.

The physician-in-chief-superintendent of the Asylum must appoint appropriate committees in places where children are given singly in custody, and also at the seat of the Asylum. These committees are composed of elected as well as officially delegated members. Half of the elected members are ladies. The colonial committees keep guard over foster parents and children placed in their custody, they provide educational requisites and clothes for the children, bring about their eventual adoption and endeavor to make proper provision for children after their discharge from the Asylum.

The duties of the Asylum Committee extend to the organization of legal protection, and to the organization of further colonies; they keep guard over the conduct of affairs in the Asylum and also the conduct and management of the colonial committees.

The central organization is the State Committee for the protection of children at Budapest, whose duty it also is to bring in contact all charitable institutions amongst themselves and with the State protection of children,

as well as to submit appropriate propositions on certain questions to the highest supervising authority, the Minister for Home Affairs.

The maintenance of and providing for a child has cost in Hungary an average of 145 crowns 27 hellers (not quite \$30 annually); out of this the actual cost of maintenance per head is 110 crowns 25 hellers (somewhat over \$22); administrative expenses are 35 crowns 2 hellers (\$7) per head.

State protection is given to all abandoned children found within the territory of Hungary, without regard to the question whether they are citizens of Hungary or other countries.

[For details see: "L'assistance publique de l'enfance en Hongrie," published by the Department for Home Affairs, Budapest, 1906.]

For delinquent children there are provided State Reformatories, existing under the supervision of the Minister of Justice. Their purpose is to reform, by means of methodical individual cultivation, juveniles who have strayed into paths of ruin and moral destruction, and after their complete training for a bread-winning career to place them with the aid of society amongst its laboring classes. Their pupils are ranked primarily from amongst juveniles convicted for penal acts. The Courts do not mulct with a prison sentence those juvenile offenders who have not reached the lowest age limit prescribed by criminal law, to wit: those who have reached the age of twelve, but have not passed the age of twenty years, and whose compulsory education is described in the interest of society, either on account of their moral perversion or of imperiling their present sur-

roundings, but sentences them to the Reformatory.

The Judge can pronounce sentence to the Reformatory even when he absolves a juvenile from an indictment, for the reason only that he did not possess a sufficient discrimination to perceive the criminality of his act.

Beyond these, others are admitted in proportion to the vacancies, when admission is requested by their parents or administrative authorities. The latter, as a rule, are not convicted, but morally and in most instances also physically abandoned children. However, as the pupils admitted on the strength of the Judge's sentences or upon request of the administrative authorities completely fill the Reformatories to-day, admission upon the request of the parent is exceptional.

Admission is granted at the discretion of the ministers of Justice. According to the by-laws, the age limits as to admission are the seventh and eighteenth year, but as a matter of fact those under twelve and over sixteen years of age are most rarely admitted, for those under twelve years cannot be occupied with industrial work, and for the education of those over sixteen years there would not remain sufficient time, as pupils who have reached the age of twenty years must be discharged at all events.

The number of Reformatories is five; out of these four serve for the education of boys only, and one for the education of girls only.

All institutions were brought into existence and are maintained by fines. In Hungary, yearly about 1,200,000 crowns (\$240,000) are collected as fines and this sum is sufficient to maintain these five institutions yearly.

Every institution has a superintendent; furthermore, a training and teaching as well as a bookkeeping and office staff. The training and teaching staff consists partly of pedagogues, partly of labor-foremen. The task of the former is to shape the morals of pupils in the proper direction, after the individual method of training. The task of the latter is to fit the pupil for the independent cultivation of the line of industry designated for him.

One tutor and two labor-foremen are assigned to work with every twenty pupils. The Ministry of Justice, in establishing the system of education in the Reformatories, was guided by the fact that the offense is the product of the individuality of the perpetrator as well as his surroundings. According to this, the basic principle of the education in Reformatories is the correction of the individuality and the mode of living of the juvenile.

Therefore, the procedure followed with pupils is also mainly along two lines. The first is the individual training of the juvenile, which consists of the endeavor on the part of the trained staff of the institution to thoroughly study him and remove the wrongful inclinations. With this end in view, the pupils of the institutions form families of twenty members each, with the tutor as head of the family. The pupils are assigned to certain families, and during their entire stay with the institution, remain, as a rule, with the same family, under the leadership of the same head of family. The division of families is based on the quality of employment, and there are, therefore, families of carpenters, weavers, gardeners, etc.

In the families pupils live together with the heads of families, the same as in natural families, children with their fathers. Teaching and training is not imparted amid official, strict forms and discipline, but by way of immediate familiar contact. The head of the family constantly busies himself with his pupils, he lives for them. He goes with them to workshops, garden, farm, where they work; watches their industry and spurs them to further effort; after school and work hours he converses with them, encourages, admonishes them; partakes of their games and pastimes; is present during their meals. These labors of the tutor are constant attention and an endeavor to extirpate still existing faults.

The other chief course of procedure of pupils is their fitting for some industrial pursuit. This, doubtless, means a moral uplifting also, for the getting to love the work and the progress shown in the work selected rouse the self-respect and lead into proper channels his desire to accomplish things. But the chief significance of labor lies in the fact, that (after a thorough fitting) it enables the pupil to make an independent living in some pursuit.

For this reason industrialism and training in industries were raised to such a high level in Reformatories. In two Reformatories wagon-building, carpenter's work and textile schools were established. Both industrial schools are fitted for hand and machine work alike.

Besides the industrial training, each institution has extensive gardening, and in one of them there is agriculture, cow-herding and vineyards.

Great care is given to the raising of the intellectual standard of pupils, also to the awakening and nursing of their religious senses. The former purpose is served by thorough mental instruction, the latter by the fact that each pupil is placed under the painstaking spiritual leadership of a minister of his own faith. Each denomination has a church at the Institution. Pupils, as a rule, spend four years at the Institution. When they have finished the industrial school and their betterment is visible, they are placed outside the Institution on probation. A social organization, the "Land's League for Children's Protection," provides that the pupils placed outside should find a livelihood with some employer, and constantly watches and protects them through its protector designated for the particular city.

If the former pupil again shows bad behavior he is returned to the Institution. If, however, his behavior is good, his discharge is made permanent. After the completion of one's twentieth year of age, he cannot be returned to the Institution any more.

According to the data of statistics gathered during the twenty years expiring at the end of the year 1904, out of the pupils placed outside 65 per cent. showed good behavior, 11 per cent. changeable, 10 per cent. showed bad behavior; the rest died or were unknown.

[For details see: "La lune contre la criminalité des mineurs," from Béla Kun, LL.D., and Stephen Láday, LL.D. Budapest, 1905.]

Besides the *State Institutions* touched upon above, there are also *Institutions for the protection of children in Hungary, organized by society itself*. The most important of all these is the "Land's League for the

Protection of Children," above mentioned, as well as the Committee on Children's Protection, of the Lawyer's Circle of Budapest. The League is given an important status, first, by the fact of its being organized over the length and width of the land, and also by the fact that the Government has recognized it as the supplemental aid of the State protection for children, and thus have given it a more or less official character.

Any person who gives a donation may become a member of the League. At this time its membership exceeds 50,000. The leadership is in the hands of a Board of Directors consisting of twenty-five members. This Board consists of prominent philanthropists, children's physicians, professors, teachers, jurists and public officials in the service of juvenile protection.

For the transaction of current matters the League maintains a central office, in charge of the president and superintendent. The League extends its activities to all branches of juvenile protection, from the care of infants to that of adolescent youths. The League asserts itself in behalf of a nursing infant, whenever an investigation and procedure of the authorities would be likely to prejudice the interests of the parent or infant, also when assistance in excess of the State protection provided by law is required.

It includes in its scope of operation children of foreign citizenship, too. The League either places the children committed to its care with certain families or where they require more vigorous training, in its own institutions.

At present it has three such institutions; one for girls and two for

boys. There are three more institutions in the course of erection. At the head of the institutions there is a principal-teacher and a corresponding staff of instructors. The children are occupied with learning and the performance of housework and light labor. Where the training method of the League is of no visible benefit to any particular child, it is transferred to a State Reformatory. But the operation of the League extends in another direction, too.

It prepares those boys who are inclined therefor for a maritime career, and with that end in view has made an arrangement with a navigation company for the admission, training and employing of such boys. In addition to this, efforts are being made for the establishment of a training ship, on board of which forty apprentices could be fitted out yearly.

The League also assists poor mothers about to be confined, and it places them in maternity homes. It obtains drugs, bandages, artificial legs, etc., for the sick and wounded and, lastly, gives pecuniary assistance in proper cases or obtains employment for the worthy destitute.

The directors of the League have a police certificate which calls upon every policeman to assist him in his duties. The Land's League for the Protection of Children issues a publication of its own.

A further social institution for children's aid is: The Committee on Children's Protection of the Lawyer's Circle of Budapest; that is a free, social organization of the Capital City's attorneys. From within its confines a committee on juvenile protection was formed on the plan of the

French and Belgian Comites de defense, whose purpose it is, first to look after the gratuitous defense of juveniles brought before the police or criminal courts on criminal charges, and besides this, to see to it that the great questions of reform in the field of juvenile protection bearing a legal aspect be properly propounded.

The gratuitous defense is furnished free of charge by 200 members of the Bar of the Capital City. Before the trial, the attorney assigned to the defense collects the necessary data, particularly those pertaining to the surroundings of the minor, with the assistance of the committee on juvenile protection, who are in co-operation with the authorities, and also of university students attending the course on criminal law. Upon these data the attorney for the defense makes his own recommendation, and thereafter provides for the proper placing of his client in conformity with the result of the trial.

In the difficult task of procuring a proper place, the attorney for the defense is mainly assisted by the Land's League for Children's Protection.

The efficiency of the activities in and about juvenile protection will be materially increased by the modification of the penal code proposed by the present Minister for Justice, Mr. Gunther. This modification will abolish the rules of the codes (for felonies and misdemeanors of the year 1871 and of violations of the year 1879), relative to juveniles, in the place whereof the following principles are to be enacted.

1. Juveniles who have not reached the age of criminal responsibility, to wit, under twelve years of age, in the

event of the commission of a crime cannot be committed either to jail or penitentiary, but courts must resort to the State and private institutions for juvenile protection in their behalf.

2. Juvenile offenders between the ages of twelve and eighteen years are sentenced by the courts, in cases of violations, also by the administrative authorities after a careful examination of their individuality, and they may also suspend sentence. Instead thereof they may impose, in conformity with the conditions, case and individual (a) parental or school admonition; (b) castigation; (c) probationary discharge under close surveillance; (d) corrective training, for an indefinite period, not exceeding the offender's twenty-one years of age.

Whenever the Court deems a confinement sentence advisable, it may even conditionally suspend that, within certain limits, and if this were not deemed advisable, the penalty must be inflicted in jails specially established for juveniles (even in State penitentiaries, but in a separated section thereof).

I have shown you as far as possible how in Hungary, Government legislation and society endeavor to grapple with the important question of the protection of children and of probation work. I began with a confession and will end also with a confession.

When I received the honorable mission to hasten to this Congress I temporarily quite forgot wife and child and saw in the call extended to me

only the realization of the dreams of my youth, the fact that I will see America, the New World! Having during my journey hither, viewed everything from the American point of view, I am now, after having assisted at this Congress, entirely under the hypnotizing influence of that sublime altruism, which I saw actualized so wonderfully in this "Congress of Mothers!" Like unto someone, who after having looked into the sun sees, wherever he may look, nothing but the fiery glow of that celestial body, I am reminded everywhere of the Mothers of America.

Even when I am sailing from New York Harbor I will see standing there, instead of the colossal Statue of Liberty, the personification of the American Mother, who, with the torch of impartial love of mankind, sheds light and warmth in all directions of the world.

And on my return home I will be able to cope with a great evil which makes itself felt in all classes of society in every nation on the Continent.

The misunderstood woman, *la femme incomprise*, who unfortunately is found airing her grievance on the platform more and more, will surely be banished successfully, as soon as she takes the American recipe to heart: "There are no misunderstood women where the life-aim of a woman is to understand the child." In America there are no misunderstood women, because there is no misunderstood child here."

God bless you for it!

A Hymn of Motherhood

By FRANCES J. DYER

O Spirit of immortal Love,
Who came and dwelt in Mary's
heart,
Abide with mothers of to-day
And inward holiness impart.

May the Most High o'ershadow us,
And we the purest love enshrine,
That motherhood may ever be
A sacrament and joy divine.

May angel messengers announce
The coming of each child to earth,
And angel choruses attend
Each miracle of human birth.

Then every child will be a light
To guide our feet in ways of peace,
And every home a Paradise,
Where love and happiness increase.

O blessed among women we!
And highly favored of the Lord,
Since our humanity became
The home of the incarnate Word.

For gift so rare, so wonderful,
Our love and gratitude we bring
To Him, who once a little child,
Is now our risen Lord and King.

An Old Maid's Children : The Self-Conscious Child

By MARY E. MUMFORD

Celia, aged two years and nine months, had taken her "bear book" and gone into the parlor for a quiet hour. Celia didn't know that her favorite volume was an up-to-date, thoroughly proper story of the three bears in which Silverhair didn't really break down the chair or muss the bed or eat up the porridge, because such conduct would have been really ill-mannered and not a good example for nice little modern Celias. The pictures were her delight, full page collections of bears; red, blue, purple ones, all colors, but such as nature had given them, and Celia loved them.

She had just comfortably settled herself in her favorite chair when the door bell rang, and presently a strange lady was ushered into the parlor.

Down dropped Celia's book into her

lap, and down dropped the lids over her beautiful blue eyes.

"She must be asleep," thought the strange lady, and she found her way softly to a sofa, scarcely daring to move, so afraid was she that she might waken the child. She was enjoying the picture of the pretty little girl in the big chair, the gayly covered book in her lap, and wishing she only had her camera for a snap-shot, when a lady came rustling down the staircase and rushed into her arms.

"Aunt Jane! is it possible? How perfectly lovely of you to give me this surprise. Have you dropped out of the clouds?"

"Hush!" said Aunt Jane, her finger on her lips, "you'll wake the darling baby."

"What—Celia? Is she here? Oh,

yes, in that big chair. That's because the dressmaker is upstairs, and she doesn't like her. But she isn't asleep."

"No? Well, then I may explain, I suppose, that I've been spending the holidays in New York, and as the train passed through Riverton, I could not resist the temptation to come and spend an hour with you. But the child, she doesn't move a muscle. She certainly must be sleeping."

"Oh, no indeed," said the mother, laughing. "She has done that before. She is as wide awake as we are. But if we sat here for an hour she wouldn't lift those eyelids. Do you know, Auntie," dropping her voice so the child could not hear, "Celia is so different from the other children. She seems painfully shy, and clings to my skirts when any stranger is by, or if she can't retreat to me, shuts her eyes as you see her. When she has these solitary fits, when she goes away and sits all by herself. It doesn't seem to me natural in one hardly more than a baby."

"It looks like a case of self-consciousness," said Aunt Jane.

"Yes, I suppose so, and presently she will outgrow it. It probably isn't worth while to pay any attention to it."

"I'm not so sure about that, Amy. If I had a self-conscious child I should consider it a serious problem; one for study and constant training. For the pity of it is that children do not outgrow it. It follows them through life, and sadly to their detriment. Do you remember—when you were little and we spent our summers at Rosedale—a family of Westons, who had the pretty cottage next to ours?"

"Yes, indeed. There were three

children—two girls and a boy. We played with them constantly, and the girls and I have been good friends ever since. I have lost sight of them though since I was married."

"Do you remember the boy?"

Oh yes; well—and he was perfectly horrid. The family were well-bred and charming, but Tom seemed made of different clay and his manners were unbearable. I could never understand why he had not the gentle instincts of the rest of the family. I remember he would come creeping up and punch us suddenly in the back—or tip us into the mud whenever we had our best clothes on or take delight in making impudent remarks. These seemed to be his ways of trying to be sociable. Then he was always anxious to 'show off,' attracting attention to himself by tiresome 'monkey shines' and foolish jokes."

"You have hit him off exactly, and his, my dear Amy, was a case of pure self-consciousness. The rudeness was the result of the boy's effort to overcome an unusual timidity. When you knew him the years when this should have been trained out of him had nearly passed. Being what he was—timid and unsocial, his mother should have urged him into companionship with other boys. Instead of this she seemed rather pleased with his shrinking from other lads—it tended to keep his face and hands clean, his clothes whole, you know, and he was encouraged to stay in doors and read books when he should have been out in the rough and tumble of child life getting rid of his sensitive angles. As he grew older and his timidity made him ungracious he was never asked to render polite services to his mother's

friends or even in the family, and so he grew up the boorish boy you remember."

"I suppose he may have outgrown it by this time, Auntie."

"No, Amy. Curiously enough, I dined last evening with him and his sisters, I always go to see them when I am in New York, and really, my dear, I did not know whether to laugh or cry at the mess he made of that dinner. He came in a little late, and after the first greeting plunged at once into an account of a fishing trip he had recently made. He placed himself in the center of all his adventures, and told them in a loud voice, with no thought that anything else could interest his sisters or their guest. I could see that the girls were anxious and annoyed, and deftly tried to get the talk into another channel—but at every pause he began again, and kept it up at intervals until I came away. He did not offer to take me to my car, and his sisters, seeing his omission, walked with me to the corner.

"You don't suppose it would affect his business career, Auntie?"

"Yes, I think it does. The girls told me he didn't seem to 'get on' in business; that he had made one or two ventures, but found it difficult to get just the right kind of partners, so they were persuading him to keep out of business life. He is a 'dear good brother,' they said, but finds other men not adaptable. 'Yes, indeed,' I thought to myself, 'the hustling world has no time to adapt itself to a self-conscious egotist, and good manners is the most important asset in modern life—I sometimes think it counts for more in business success than good morals even.'"

"But surely, Auntie, a self-conscious

man may have very good manners—a sort of veneer, you know."

"I doubt it. A man always thinking of himself cannot have manners which will 'wash.' Those only come out of a heart which is constantly regardful of others. But look at my watch, my train must be nearly due. I didn't expect to spend all my precious half hour talking about Tom Weston."

"But, Auntie," said Amy, laying a detaining hand on Miss Benson's arm, "you have given me a new idea about this self-consciousness, and made me anxious about Celia. What do you think I should do with her?"

"Oh, be on your guard. Cultivate her social side. Don't let her go off and have these solitary hours. Make her think about other people, and whether they are having a good time and whether she can't do something to make them happy. Put the idea into her doll's play. Get up little parties in which it is her duty to look out for everybody's comfort and happiness. Rummage your imagination for ideas. You can change the warp of her mind if you begin early—and work persistently. When she is old enough send her to dancing school, and make her dance with everybody. Don't let her choose out a single mate for her devotions. Keep before her the idea of doing something for somebody, especially for her playmates and pets. In time she will get the general social sense, overcome consciousness, and have the perfect manner which comes only from self-forgetfulness."

"Good-bye, Amy dear, but stay, before I go let me see if that baby really was asleep."

They lifted the portiere softly—Celia's blue eyes were wide open. She was looking at the "bear book."

Canada Establishes Juvenile Court and Probation Laws



Senate Chamber, Ottawa, Canada

The Canadian Parliament has just passed an act respecting juvenile delinquents which places Canada in the forefront, as far as legislation for children is concerned. Mr. William L. Scott, President of the Children's Aid Society of Ottawa, inaugurated the movement to secure the act, and for three years has worked earnestly to secure its passage. The act establishes Juvenile Courts, probation, prosecution of persons wilfully causing children's delinquency, a Juvenile Court Committee to consult and co-operate with probation officers in care of their cases, exclusion of children from the court except the particular child whose case is being considered; it forbids confinement of children in jails, and provides detention houses; it gives the Juvenile Court exclusive jurisdiction over children under sixteen except in cases of children over fourteen, where, in serious offences the

court may use its discretion as to proceeding according to the practice of ordinary courts. No report of the trial or other disposition of a charge against a child, in which the name of the child or its parent or guardian is disclosed, shall, without the special leave of the Judge, be published in any newspaper or other publication.

Children are not permitted to give testimony under oath, nor can any person be convicted on a child's testimony unless corroborated in some material respect.

Madame Bruchesi and Miss Cassey were sent by the Ottawa Children's Aid Society to study Philadelphia probation methods, in 1906, and, without any law, the Ottawa children have since had the benefit of probation care. In 1906, the Children's Aid Society, with the sanction of the Governor-General, Earl Grey, arranged a meeting in Ottawa to promote knowl-

edge concerning Juvenile Court and probation methods. Mrs. Frederic Schoff was invited to explain the work. A joint meeting of Senate and House was also held in Parliament Buildings at which the Speaker of the Senate presided and again the opportunity was offered to her to further the adoption of the bills then pending by explaining the system to the members of Parliament. Hundreds of pamphlets were sent by the Philadelphia Juvenile Court Association to educate

public opinion in regard to the proposed legislation.

Judge Lindsey visited Canada in the interest of the law, and Mr. W. L. Scott worked unceasingly to secure it. He who helps a child has done a great work, but he who builds a system which is to help all the children of a nation has done the greatest possible service to his country. Canada may remember with gratitude the service of Mr. Scott and his co-workers, who, from the beginning, had the earnest support of Earl and Countess Grey.

The Mother-in-Law

By MRS. HENRY J. HERSEY

MY DEAR PHOEBE:—You will be surprised to learn that I am actually installed as a member of my son Henry's family. That was one thing I said I never would do. (Ah, how little we know of the future when we make those positive statements!) Everything looked bright to me in those days and I was very confident. No mother ever found more happiness in the labor of bringing up a family than I found. If I had been able to harden my heart or to show a little more business capacity, probably the competence left to me at my husband's death would have preserved me for the rest of my days from the humiliation of dependence upon my children. But what could I do? What could you or any other mother do in such circumstances? Mothers early form the fatal habit of denying themselves to the last degree when what seems to be their children's welfare is at stake. So when my son William met disaster in the panic I joyfully turned over to him, in the hope of saving his prop-

erty, half of my little bank account. Times went from bad to worse and he finally lost all, including his health.

When Henry, my youngest son, had the fine opening which promised so well, and all he needed was a little capital, it gave me another opportunity of filling the breach. I don't think I ever was or can be happier than when that darling boy held me in his arms and expressed his appreciation of my help, and told me more fully than he had ever done in his life before what his mother's love had meant to him from his babyhood. How he had met and conquered the temptations of his young manhood through the strength it had given him, how it daily inspired him to faithful work, and that to the last hour of his life, with God's help, he proposed to be true to his mother's ideals and to take the place to her of the husband whose companionship and protection she could now no longer know.

You will remember that Henry was a boy who used words and caresses

very sparingly, and will see that he must have been stirred to the depths of his nature to open his heart so fully, even to his mother. You will also understand how abundantly repaid I felt for all my sacrifices and devotion.

I see now that their father would not have approved my course, but I thought I was doing right. I had no idea that misfortune would finally overtake my other little investments. As you know the great corporation in which Henry was concerned went to pieces at last. It was a terrible blow. He has shown great energy and courage and I know that he will "make good" if his health continues. His wife is a most attractive woman and she certainly has that rare gift, that in New England they call "faculty." I ought to be very happy in his household and often I bitterly rebuke myself for not accepting thankfully my present lot. Do you know the old saying, "Weary are the feet that climb another's stairs?" Perhaps that explains it all. I feel myself an outsider. My own real existence seems a thing wholly of the past. You may tell me that I am morbid, but it is true that I cannot forget that everything I have is so much taken from Henry's wife and their dear little ones. For instance, my bedroom is absolutely needed for a nursery. Though my clothing is naturally very modest I always realize that the dollars that must go for it would buy many little luxuries for the others. I am able to do a great deal of the work which more than "pays my way." You must see the painfulness of my position, and I sincerely want your advice.

I hasten to add that there is no open

inharmony between Henry's wife and myself—God forbid! The vulgarity of such a condition would be unbearable to me, I think. I do truly love her and I daily strive to "put myself in her place," to realize that in my early married life the presence of my own husband's mother would not have added to the delight of our home life. I keep out of the way as systematically as I can. It isn't quite as necessary as it appears, perhaps, that I spend most of my evenings in my own room writing letters, and the headaches that give me frequent excuse for tea and toast up stairs, allowing Henry and his wife to sit at their cozy dinner table alone, the babies being in bed, are sometimes superinduced by my keen understanding of their innocent joy in such unrestrained companionship.

I know that love and love alone conquers all things. My own heart is hungry enough for an expression of it from them, but I must be patient. You may not be able to give me any suggestions which will help me to improve matters here, but I am going to make bold to ask you to take from me an idea for the training of your daughter before her marriage. Couldn't she be taught to be a good daughter-in-law? To see this question from my point of view as well as from her own? And isn't it possible for her to appreciate that her joy and pride and happiness in her husband is in direct proportion to the care and devotion and wisdom of the woman who in anguish brought him into this world; with self-sacrificing love and unlimited patience led his steps through babyhood and boyhood up to manhood; who counted no effort too

great if perchance she could help him to keep his life pure and high in anticipation of the day when some dear, sweet girl would lay her hand in his?

Now, we mothers-in-law do not expect or wish to be put upon a pedestal. But, oh, does any woman ever grow so old that she does not crave an occasional chivalrous attention from the man who is dearer to her than any other on earth—her own boy? He may not think in time to give her a loving little pat as he seats her at the table. He isn't in the habit of it, but once in a while he could whisper,

"How nice you look," or "How pretty your hair is to-night." And all this would sweeten the cup of the mother-in-law immeasurably.

Men grow so absorbed in business that perhaps even in this relation the wife must be the one to set the pace and by her own example and attitude lead her husband to what by and by she would give anything if she could find to be the habit and custom of her own grown up boy's home life when she, too, is a mother-in-law.

Yours hopefully,
EUNICE.

Mother Problems in North Dakota

By MRS. NEWTON YOUNG

(Appointed by the Governor to attend International Congress on Welfare of the Child)

Our problems are so different from yours. It would take me a long time to make you see our conditions as they are. The only fresh air problems which we have are to find a way so that we shall not have too much of it, at 40 degrees below zero. We need no playgrounds. There are boundless playgrounds surrounding us.

The only child labor problem we have is that of the mother, to teach her young son to love to labor. Far from having any crowded districts, our only desire is to fill up these boundless prairies, and woe betide you if you ever meet one of our real estate agents!

But we have just as serious problems as you have. You have heard the saying, "God made the country; man made the town," and perhaps you also have heard Mark Twain's addition to it—"The devil made the little town." If this is true, I am sure he must have been kept busy in North Dakota, because we are a State of

small villages. In order to market our grain, we must have elevators every few miles, and the question with us is how to bring the boy up in a small town, where there is so little to stir his ambition; where it is so easy to fall into the way of the village idler.

The second problem is that of the child, isolated on the far-Western prairies, where he cannot attend school in winter. These are our problems.

The first action taken by our Legislature or our lawmakers, looking to the welfare of the child, was the placing in our State Constitution of the prohibition law. North Dakota was not the first State to make this law, but she was the first State to enforce it. It is the best enforced prohibition State in the Union. I want you to bear in mind that I am only going to deal with this problem as it affects the child. I am not a member of any temperance organization, so that all that I am saying, I am saying as an

impartial observer; one who has lived twenty years in the State of which I speak. Prohibition does prohibit. Prohibition prohibits the open saloon, the temptation of the youth and the degradation of the man. Whatever you may say as to the increase of drinking in the home; whatever you may say of the occasional blind tigers, this fact remains, that I do know that there is no open saloon east of the Missouri River. Possibly you can imagine what it means, then, to children to cross over into the next State. This year I placed two of my children in college, and one of the first things they said to me was, "Why do you put us here? There are saloons here."

They were not accustomed to seeing that. You see the effect upon children. They naturally form the opinion that it is absolutely disgraceful to enter a saloon. And suppose there is a blind tiger in the town? The young boys will not go to find it; it is only the confirmed drunkard who will find it. I know you have heard different reports. I listened to a speaker from the East once, who said that prohibition was never effective. He mentioned two or three States, but he never mentioned North Dakota.

The next law for which we are famous is our pure food law, which you all are trying to follow, but are still a little behind. You have all heard of the work of Leon Ladd, the foremost man in his work in the United States. Possibly we were aroused to the necessity for this because our foods were so largely imported, and we suffered more from adulterated foods than some of the other States. The fact remains, that although our Commissioner has the power to arrest, fine and imprison, he has seldom

found it necessary to use any such measures. He has used the women's clubs as his emissaries. He scattered broadcast throughout the State a list of the adulterated foods, and we are never willing, knowingly, to take poisons into our stomachs.

The next point of which I wish to speak is our work for orphan children. We have our Children's Home, in the city of Fargo. This is supported by private charity. Our Legislature has given authority to various County Judges throughout the State that wherever in their knowledge a child is not being properly cared for, where the parents are vicious, improvident, the County Judge can remove the child from its home and place it in the Children's Home, in Fargo.

This home is only temporary, except in cases where a child is placed there in time of stress, in which case the child is kept until the parents can find a home for it. The other children are put into homes. I wish I could show you some of the homes in which these little children are taken. When you hear the club women censured as being childless, just let me tell you that the club women of our State have taken one and sometimes two little waifs from various organizations into their homes. Twenty years ago a mother would have hesitated to take a child of that kind into her own home, fearing that the outcome might not be well, but I figure it this way: If we take such a child into our homes, and increase his goodness only ten per cent., we have made the world that much better.

Our National Government gave us, when we entered Statehood, two million acres of our lands for the public school; that is exclusive of all

lands for higher education. I believe this is always the case when a State enters the Union, but I do not believe that in any other State has the amount ever been preserved for the public schools. Its value is given as at least ten dollars an acre, and so our school fund is worth at least twenty millions of dollars. Our institutions looked greedily upon this fund, and they said "Let's borrow it;" but I am proud to say that the Supreme Court issued an opinion that that fund can never be touched except for the public schools of our State. We decided that the best way to treat the boy in the small town was to make of him a

noble, useful citizen. I do not want to detract the value of technical training, because I believe in all of it, but let me emphasize the other side: We are accused of being a too commercial people. Let us not, in educating our children the more rapidly to grasp the dollars, forget that after all that is a lesser consideration. I am here to speak for a college education for our boys and girls! We must train their minds; we must educate these heaven-born tastes which they all have in some degree. It is the mother who first inspires these longings in the souls of her children.

Religious Training for Children

By ANNIE R. RAMSAY

Moral training in the schools is now a burning question, and while agreeing as to the necessity for it some of us are asking "How" the necessity has arisen, and, "Why" the work of training the conscience and moral habits of children has passed from the home, and the parents, to the school, and the teacher.

The answer is not far to seek when we consider the utter lack of religious training in thousands of our American families, when, although there may still be the old observance of religious rites and ceremonies the children are no longer taught religion for the conduct of life. Even in homes where it is attempted many parents are groping after some rational method which shall avoid the danger of making religion distasteful and yet give children something to live by.

You may not be so fortunate as to be able to believe that the Bible is

inspired, but if you are at all interested in training your children religiously you must at least believe in God and you will agree that Christ inculcated the purest and completest system of ethics that the world has ever known. He provided it with certain simple rules and these rules can be taught as God's law, since the purest and best must belong to Him, even if we cannot concede that the minds which gave them forth were inspired.

With children, moral training is for the formation of habits, habits of thought and habits of action, which by endless repetition finally become character.

How to teach these habits and on what they shall be founded is the problem confronting parents.

In this year of experts and specialists in child nature study it is insisted upon that mind training and character

building must be done according to known principles of development, and that training in any direction must follow the laws of all training. Therefore pedagogies will be appealed to if we are to find the methods and devices by which principles are taught through habits, and habits are crystallized into character.

The first axiom of the pedagogue is that habit training must be mostly done before the child is 12 years old. Up to that age he is comparatively easy to guide and control, but after it he is developing new faculties so rapidly and feels the growth of his own will so strongly that the guardian of his moral life has more to combat than proclivities and inside dangers.

This limits then the time for religious preparation. From the very first budding of intelligence the child may be given religious habits. He may be taught to bow his head long before he can join in the grace at table. He may be given the habit of reverential silence before he can lisp the prayer his older brother is repeating. As he grows older the habits of his own life may be insisted upon till at 12 years, or thereabouts, his mind wakens to reason and to questions—then it must be met with the logic and the beliefs which inspire your own life.

In ordinary education children must do many things which have no precise or definite value to them, but in the end they see the need of these processes. So it will be in religious training. Your little child will ask, "Why must I go to church?" just as he asks, "Why must I go to school?" and the answer may, in both cases, be much the same, "Because father and

mother think it wise, and because we wish to train and educate you to be a useful and happy man."

But what are some of the moralities which may be founded on religion?

The habits of truthfulness, gentleness, patience, reverence, purity of thought and word, forbearance and charity are all inculcated in the Bible and are to be taught as God's law for man, positively and clearly taught, just as you teach that your own law brings bedtime at 8 o'clock, or insist upon order and neatness. A child thus trained has an anchor which is altogether lacking to the young soul left to struggle with his own nature and without guide or compass to make a safe harbor.

The mother, while teaching the fundamental laws of conduct through Bible text and verse, finds, of course, in each little child a tendency to fail in some one direction. So she teaches the Sermon on the Mount to all her brood, but, to the little belligerent, who resents every slight and pays back every injury with interest, she teaches over and over again "Blessed are the meek," "Blessed are the peace-makers," till a desire for the blessing and an effort to obtain it create the obedience to the law. Nor does she teach these truths merely by repetition and as rote lessons. She fixes the fact that God commands a spirit of peace and forgiveness by such means, but she dwells on it in the familiar little talks which come at bedtime or in private. She recalls the verses in times of temptation and gives them to him as a standard towards which he is to strive. The child who lies is a common enough problem, but mothers

are learning to discriminate between the lies of imagination and the lies of dissimulation. The age of the child and the kind of untruth are often a help in the puzzle, since the marvelous creative faculty of childhood rarely lingers beyond the seventh or eighth year. Even if it should, it has by that time received some attention and the mother is trying to guide the mind to differentiate between what is real and what is "pretending." In any event the child that has been taught the Ten Commandments—the Ninth can be especially dwelt upon—and the verse "Lying lips are an abomination to the Lord," makes clear what the breaking of the Commandment must mean.

The disobedient child cannot escape "Children obey your parents in the Lord." The boy or girl given to open impertinence and rebellion needs "Honor thy father and thy mother," just as the quarrelsome children need the verse which declares that "a gentle answer turneth away wrath."

The little coward frightened at the dark, or at fear of punishment, or from whatever cause, is soothed into quiet and courage by the story of the Shepherd's Psalm and its "I will fear no evil, for Thou art with me."

The child beset by a quick temper or any form of spiritual temptation such as vanity, contentiousness, procrastination, want of self-control or idle waste of mind and time finds a mighty armor in the ringing promises "He that overcometh shall inherit all things," or "He that ruleth his spirit is greater than he that taketh a city."

"Be thou faithful unto death and I will give thee a crown of life."

So one might go through the category of virtues and sins with helpful verses for the one and warnings for the other, but parents can make the list for themselves, not failing to include the Beatitudes, the Twenty-third Psalm, Ten Commandments, St. Paul's chapter on charity, the Golden Rule and the scattered chapters and verses which come as additional or special commands. But habits, important as they are, do not include all of religion and this truth sets sharply forth the vital difference between morality and religion.

Matthew Arnold says: "Religion is morality touched by emotion." Taking this at its best, it behoves us to use the early years, the plastic years of life before the age of emotion arrives, as mere preparation for the time when the developing will and the awakening enthusiasms can respond to the nobler appeal. When that comes it brings the duty of training hero-worshipping youth to worship what is good, to see that moral strength is as firm as physical prowess. It is the time to speak plainly and reverentially of the fatherhood of God and for His love for His human children. You will be understood now if you tell simply and naturally of the help He sends each, of the duty we owe through love and gratitude. The old idea of obedience to God's law will linger in heart and memory but the obedience will be rendered from a new motive, a real, a conscious effort to serve God, and this is religion.



The Press the Greatest Ally of the Congress

The Press Committee has found that the leading newspapers are cheerfully disposed to unite their great powers with those of this Congress in promoting such interests of childhood as are vital to the present happiness and well-being of the child and vital also to his future good citizenship. Let us consider the bigness of just one big newspaper as an extension agent. The editor of a great newspaper of Chicago testified in court that he buys 15,000 tons of news print paper a year, at a cost of \$660,000. This paper is read by 130,000 people daily, and its Sunday circulation is 200,000. Total readers per week, 910,000; per year, 45,682,000. This paper devoted a half column to the Mothers' Congress, then distributed its 200,000 copies for us by mail and by carriers. We had no bills to pay for either paper, printing or postage. Can you imagine a more economical system of extension work or a more far-reaching extension agent?

The living voice of a speaker on any subject connected with the cause of childhood may reach his tens or his hundreds, but when reproduced by the public press his audience is increased by an invisible host of countless thousands. If that speaker be President Roosevelt, his words are flashed from ocean to ocean, literally reaching the millions. Within twelve hours of their pronouncement, in Washington, D. C., we, in Illinois, have read, have thought, have been impressed, have been influenced. Such are the mar-

velous, mechanical facilities of this latter-day literary wonder. It is impossible to state concretely what the coöperation of the press has accomplished in extending our work. Those who read with keenest and most thoughtful interest are those directly connected with parents' and teachers' clubs, with mothers' clubs or with the home departments of the various women's clubs. Thus some are led to take that first step toward joining our ranks by the thought suggested that an organization exists devoted to the welfare of the child. "Sow a thought, reap an act."

The Press Committee would recommend that each club in membership appoint its press committee, whose duty it shall be to collect, compile and forward to the leading local newspaper such news as shall result to the advantage of the work of the Congress in conserving the welfare of the child. Also that the chairmen of such committees shall be ex-officio members of the State Press Committee, in just the same way that the Press Committee chairmen of the several States are ex-officio members of the National Press Committee, Miss Jane Stewart, chairman. By perfecting the plan under which we now are working we should be prepared to give definite and tangible proofs that the press is the most economical and most powerful of all agencies in the extension work of the Congress of Mothers.

MRS. EDGAR A. HALL,
Chairman Illinois Press Committee.

Topical Outlines for Monthly Mothers' Meetings

By MARY LOUISA BUTLER

Topic: Untruthfulness

"If thou the truth wouldest teach, thou must be true thyself."

1. Relate instances where children have been untruthful.

(a) What were their environments?

(b) What circumstances led to the falsehood?

(c) What remedies were applied?

2. What relation does fear of punishment bear to untruthfulness?

(a) When falsehood is caused by such fear what treatment should follow?

3. Have you ever known instances where insincerity or even downright false dealing on the part of parents has led a child to be untruthful?

Speak ye every man the truth to his neighbor; execute the judgment of truth and peace in your gates; and let none of you imagine evil in your hearts against his neighbor; and love no false oath, for all these are things that I hate, saith the Lord.—Zech. 8: 16-17.

4. What relation do dress and house furnishings bear to sincerity of character?

5. Value to a child of living in an atmosphere of sincerity.

6. How distinguish between a play of the imagination and direct falsehood?

(a) How should such cases be treated?

7. Value of showing children how much trouble comes from inaccuracy of any kind.

8. How will insistence of accuracy in counting, making change, doing examples, measuring and copying help a child to place a value on accuracy of speech?

After prolonged, extensive and special study of our present topic I am convinced that no one thing will do more to undermine a person's character, and harm an entire household or community, than a life of falsehood or insincerity. Of all wrongs committed by human beings against each other, few, if any, can be entirely separated from falsity of some kind.

Our present term, "untruthfulness," is an exceedingly mild one, and while it is a dictionary word, I do not find it anywhere in the Bible. Instead I do find "lying," "lies," "liar," "deceive," "hypocrisy," "hypocrite," "dissimulation," "false," "falsehood," etc. However, whatever term is used I hope the subject may have serious and earnest consideration from mothers and teachers everywhere, remembering that only by being true ourselves can we help others to be true.

"Truth is the very bond of society, without which it must cease to exist, and dissolve into anarchy and chaos. A household cannot be governed by lying, nor can a nation."—Samuel Smiles.

In his book, "Character," Samuel Smiles says: "Of all mean vices lying

is the meanest. It is in some cases the offspring of perversity and vice, and in many others of sheer moral cowardice. It assumes many forms, such as diplomacy, expediency, moral reservation, equivocation or moral dodging, reticency, exaggeration, disguise or concealment in making promises, or allowing them to be implied, which are never intended to be performed, in refraining from speaking the truth when to do so is a duty."

Ruskin says: "Accustom the children to close accuracy of statement, both as a principle of honor and as an accomplishment of language, making truth the test of perfect language, and giving the intensity of a moral purpose to the study and art of words, thus carrying the accuracy into all habits of thought and observation, so as to think of things as they truly are, as far as in us rests; and it does rest much in our power."

Solomon said: "Lying lips are an abomination to the Lord; but they that deal truly are his delight."

"An old woodsman once said that no man needs a guide in the forest unless he is afraid of it, and therefore unfit for it—fit only to be guided out of it. Much the same thing might be said of truth. He who is a part of it, who loves it, and sympathizes with it, and has no desire to get out of it and beyond it, needs no guide in it. This was what Christ meant when He said, 'I am the Truth.' He was so identified with it that there was no distinction between Himself and the truth. And the same identification with truth is possible for every child of God. When we attain this oneness with truth we shall need no more guides—expounders, theorizers, interpreters. We shall know the truth as it is, and the truth shall make us free."

REFERENCES

A good reference Bible. "A Lie Never Justifiable," Dr. Henry Clay Trumbull. Two books that will well repay all the study one can put upon them.

JAPAN

Jiro Abratani, of Japan, is in this country studying the work for children, with the purpose of introducing what is desirable in his own country. In writing for reports of the International Congress on the welfare of the child, he says: "I think that care of children and instruction of mothers in regard to child saving are most important and effective in social re-

form work." The influence of the National Congress of Mothers is being felt in the far East. A movement has been started which is extending so widely, that those who realize the significance, rejoice for the future of the children. Thought leads to action, and when nations are aroused to the children's needs they will surely provide for them.

STATE OF IOWA

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

DES MOINES

By the Governor:

A PROCLAMATION

In these days we realize as never before the imperious demand for strong men and women—strong in heart, in mind and in body. The work to be done, the evil influences to be overcome, require that the standards of manhood and womanhood recognized in the past be not alone maintained but that they shall be lifted up. In order to meet this demand and requirement there is no duty more keenly felt than that of training, directing and safeguarding the child life committed to our care.

This sense of responsibility has taken various organized forms, not the least of which is the National Congress of Mothers, with its auxiliaries, the Iowa Congress of Mothers and like associations in the several States. The purpose of the Iowa Congress is "to raise the standard of home life, to bring the home and the school into closer relation for the sake of intelligent coöperation between parents and teachers, and to assist educators and legislators in all matters pertaining to the ethical, mental and physical development of children."

Such a purpose appeals, not only to the mothers of the land, but as well to every patriotic citizen. While no previous age has equalled our own in material achievement, or in the broadening of opportunity for the development of the character of children, we must admit that no other age has so spread broadcast the fascinating temptations that present themselves to inexperience. More is spent for public education than ever before, and this is well. But we cannot too often reflect upon the fact that it is in the home and under the teaching of the parents there are first projected the deep lines which the character of the child is most likely to follow.

Believing as I do, profoundly, in the beneficent effect of an organized motherhood upon child life upon which society so wholly depends, I deem it proper to call the attention of the people of the State to the Biennial Convention of the Iowa Congress of Mothers, which will convene in Des Moines on the 11th day of October, 1908.

In the hope that I can further the cause for which the Congress of Mothers stands, and to awaken public interest in its discussions and deliberations, I, ALBERT B. CUMMINS, Governor of the State of Iowa, do hereby appoint

SUNDAY, OCTOBER ELEVENTH,
AS
PARENTS' DAY

and I earnestly request every Minister of the Gospel, and every congregation to make the religious service of that day turn toward our children, their temptations, rights, opportunities and development.

I also ask the newspapers and all societies organized for altruistic objects to make this Convention the occasion for challenging the public thought upon a subject so vital to the welfare of our Country and State.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State.

Done at Des Moines this 14th day of September, A. D. 1908.

Albert B. Cummins

By the Governor:

W.C. Hayward

Secretary of State,

Communication from the Iowa Congress of Mothers

Believing that there is increasing demand for a sustained effort on the part of parents, educators, ministers and philanthropists to crystallize into actuality the aroused sentiment for the betterment of our children, and having full faith in the power of concerted action, the *Iowa Congress of Mothers* desire to supplement this Proclamation of the Governor of our State with the expressed wish that this *Parents' Day* shall receive universal recognition with appropriate service recognizing the needs of each community, and that a report of such meetings be sent to Mrs. Walter Brown, 2141 West Grand Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa, President of the *Iowa Congress of Mothers*, with further suggestions as to how best to safeguard the children and youth of our State from physical, mental and moral disease, and throw around them better home and legal protection, more of love and helpful influences, consequently less of law and punishment.

For the Welfare of the Child

Bazaars in Philadelphia, Cleveland, Los Angeles

December 2, 3, 4, 1908

The National Congress of Mothers finds it necessary to raise

TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS

to do the work which opens before it

ON BEHALF OF MOTHERS AND CHILDREN.

Thousands of women who cannot contribute money can give their handiwork.

The National Congress of Mothers will hold Bazaars in Philadelphia, Cleveland and Los Angeles, December 2d, 3d and 4th, 1908.

Everyone interested in extending the great work that has already been done by the Congress can do so by contributing whatever is possible to one section of the Bazaar.

Household articles of all kinds, Fancy Work, Children's Garments, Aprons, Toys, Dolls. Preserves and Jellies, Cake and Candy, Books and Pictures are all desired. Contributions from residents of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Florida should be sent to

**MRS. WILLIAM T. CARTER, Chairman (Care Miss Robb)
1524 Locust Street, Philadelphia, Pa.**

Contributions from residents of Michigan, Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas, Missouri, Iowa, Indiana, Illinois, Minnesota and Wisconsin should be sent to

**MRS. S. C. STRIEBINGER, Chairman
4103 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio**

Contributions from residents of Texas, Indian Territory, Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska, Utah, North and South Dakota, Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, Nevada, Oregon, Washington and California should be sent to

**MRS. JEFFERSON D. GIBBS, Chairman
424 Park View Place, Los Angeles, Cal.**

STATE NEWS.

STATE CONGRESSES IN OCTOBER.

Iowa, in Des Moines, October 11-12.
 Illinois Conference, Evanston, October 20.
 New York, Saratoga, October 20-24.
 Ohio, Columbus, October 21-23.

STATE CONGRESSES IN NOVEMBER.

Louisiana, Shreveport, November 4.
 New Jersey, Atlantic City, November 13-14.
 Pennsylvania, Oil City, November 5-7.

OFFICERS AND NATIONAL BOARD OF MANAGERS MEET IN WASHINGTON AT THE NEW HEADQUARTERS, 806 LOAN AND TRUST BUILDING, OCTOBER 8-9.

NATIONAL CONGRESS OF MOTHERS
 TO MEET IN NEW ORLEANS, FEBRUARY, 1909.

NEW JERSEY

New Jersey Congress of Mothers will hold its annual meeting at the Hotel Chalfonte, Atlantic City, November 13th and 14th.

Everyone interested is earnestly invited.

The Board of Managers of the New Jersey Congress of Mothers offers the NATIONAL CONGRESS OF MOTHERS MAGAZINE for one year to each individual member paying one dollar to the New Jersey Congress. This was done to increase State membership and to introduce and increase the circulation of the MAGAZINE.

CANADA

A special meeting was held in the Parish Hall, Bobcaygeon, in August, to hear of the work of the National Congress of Mothers. Mrs. Arthur A. Birney and Mrs. J. H. McGill, of Washington, were the speakers, and so much interest was created that a Parents' circle will be organized.

NEW YORK

The New York State Assembly of Mothers reports steady progress in all branches of its work.

Under the able leadership of Mrs. John D. Whish seven heretofore independent circles have affiliated, and several new clubs have been organized, while local clubs generally have extended their field of labor, and increased their membership.

The success of two playgrounds in Albany, both of which are maintained by the local clubs, has interested many clubs throughout the State, and resulted in the establishment of a number of playgrounds in different cities. Sanitary conditions of school buildings have been modernized. School lunch counters have been much improved. The billposters' organization of the State has expressed a desire to coöperate with the Assembly in suppressing objectionable show-bills. School superintendents have expressed their appreciation of the good work accomplished by the parent-

teachers' circles, while Judge Harvey, of Utica, so heartily approves of the coöperation of home and school, as demonstrated in the work of these organizations, that he accepted the presidency of a circle in that city.

The annual meeting of the Assembly is to be held in Saratoga, October 20th to 24th, when a most interesting program is promised.

A source of much encouragement and pride to all members is the fact that Mrs. Theodore Roosevelt is now a life member of the New York State Assembly of Mothers.

The Hammondsport Mothers' Club had a public meeting in July which was attended by the State Officers. Mrs. Blake Babcock, of Hornell, spoke of the great success they have had in forming a Parents' and Teachers' Association in that city. They overcame many difficulties in forming the organization. They have secured one public playground, and expect two more in the near future.

The Hammondsport Club entertained the State Board during its Executive Meeting. A banquet at the home of Mrs. Orson Brundage, and a delightful motor boat ride down the lake, gave opportunity for becoming acquainted and for informal conference.

Last year the Bath Mothers' Club entertained the Executive Board. A public meeting is arranged, and this plan is found valuable in promoting the work and in permitting the State Officers to come in touch with members in different sections of the State.

PENNSYLVANIA

Annual meeting of Pennsylvania Congress of Mothers at Oil City, No-

vember 5th, 6th and 7th. Important measures relating to the welfare of children of Pennsylvania are to be considered.

The Mothers' Club of Monongahela, Pa., has published an attractive Year Book for 1908-1909. Mrs. James B. Gibson is president. The program for each meeting in the year is given. Different members are chosen to act as hostesses at the meetings.

ILLINOIS

A conference of the Illinois Congress of Mothers will be held at Evanston, on October 20th, by invitation of the Woman's Club of that city. There will be two sessions, morning and afternoon. One subject for consideration will be improvement of the High School.

The following resolution was adopted at a meeting of the Board of Managers, held September 11th.

"We heartily endorse the efforts of the press, in taking action thus early in regard to a sane and safe celebration of the Fourth of July. We hereby pledge our sympathetic support both as a board and as individual mothers."

The Illinois Congress of Mothers has appointed a Bazaar Committee of seven, of whom Mrs. Louis K. Gillson is chairman, to procure the contributions from Illinois for the National Congress Bazaar. The work is well under way. It has also issued a circular giving the aims and methods of work, and reasons for joining. One of these is "Because you wish to be helped; because you need the advice and experience of others; because your ideal of motherhood reaches out to all motherless or unmothered chil-

dren and you know that your service to your own is not complete without service to all."

LOUISIANA

The Congress of Mothers of Louisiana will have charge of the State Fair, November 4th. We are going to make this a fair not only of Louisiana, but of all the states, and we have written the Governors of each state to be our guests and to send delegates to this Congress. We believe that good roads in the rural districts will be the solution of the social intellectual and moral welfare of the children of the several states. You will be the first to recognize the advantage to the state of the mothers and children, teachers and fathers, making common cause with each other for a great common good to home and school. We want your co-operation and advice. Our efforts are all based upon the motto, "A little child shall lead them," and we only work along lines in which we are sure we are laboring for the "welfare of the child."

The Police Juries of our state, recognizing the importance of the motherhood of the state becoming practically interested in the development of good roads for home and educational purposes have been very generous to us. Our City Council has given us \$500.00; our Police Jury or Parish Court has appropriated \$200.00 towards the building of the model road, which is to be built between the Model Country School House and the Model Country Home. This Model Country Home will be furnished throughout by manual and industrial work of the children of Louisiana. We desire good roads and school im-

provement department of the National Congress of Mothers, so that each state president will have a similar committee in her state organization. We believe that in no other way will the mothers and fathers combine their efforts in a thoroughly practical manner for the children, as in the matter of road building and school improvement, both of which appeal strongly to the commercial sense of the husband and father. We believe that in this way the district school house may be made a social center of the community, where the children can go in the day time and study at night to enjoy the social features so seldom found in the rural district homes and communities. Whenever the people of the rural districts realize that the school houses may be and ought to be used 365 days in the year instead of a few months, the proper results for the financial investment in grounds and buildings will be received. Then to be born in the country and to live there will mean to enjoy the athletic, social, religious features, which every child in the city can possess. The superintendents of education are making the schools the social centers.

You are cordially invited to be our guest November 4th. Our Governor will drive the "King-Split Log Drag" over our model road and our ex-Governor who is chairman of our advisory council will be chairman of the reception committee, which is composed of fifty representative gentlemen and fifty representative ladies of the state of Louisiana. We also request that you send as your delegates to this Congress, with a view of returning to your State, a lady and a

gentleman to begin an active campaign along the school improvement lines suggested.

Please respond at once, that I may know of your sympathy and approval, as well as to make arrangements for the hospitality of the Mothers' Congress for its guests.

Very cordially,
Your friend and co-worker,
MARY DE GARMO,
President,
Louisiana Congress of Mothers.

OHIO

The Ohio Congress of Mothers holds its annual meeting in Columbus, October 21st, 22d and 23d. Mrs. Helen R. Wells has visited many towns in Ohio during the summer to organize Mothers' Circles and to extend the interest in mother work. Rev. Washington Gladden and President Thompson, of Ohio State University, are among the speakers. Columbus was the birthplace of the Ohio Congress, and Mrs. J. A. Jeffrey, who has been its earnest supporter ever since, has opened her home to its officers during the State meeting.

CONNECTICUT

The ideal parent-teacher meeting is a meeting of one parent and one teacher to consider the moral, intellectual, and physical welfare of one pupil. You and your boy's teacher should hold such a meeting several times during each school year, and on other occasions than those in which he is the subject of discipline. If parent-teacher associations continue their work of educating both teachers and parents to know that they carry a shared and common responsibility and not a completely divided responsibility for their children, all our endeavor will be worth while. We must not be very hopeful for valuable returns from the work of the mother who is satisfied because she has given, during the year, four periods of three hours each to meetings for the consideration of the welfare of the community's boys, but has not found three periods of thirty minutes each for conference with the teacher of her own boy. The watchword of teacher-parent associations is "get together." This means of course beginning with the teacher of my own child.—*From Report Connecticut Congress of Mothers, Mrs. Charles H. Keyes.*

TEXAS

The following letter from Texas is one of many that have been received by Mrs. Walter Brown, president, who has had the co-operation of the press of Iowa in her work.

"While reading in 'Wallace Farmer' I saw where you all were doing such good work in the Mothers' Congress. I am a teacher in a little town where

the co-operation of parents is unknown. The organization of a Mothers' Circle will, I believe, accomplish lasting results. I know nothing about organizing. Any help you can give me will surely be appreciated." The press sowed the seed which is already growing in far away fields.

NATIONAL CONGRESS OF MOTHERS

Founder.

MRS. THEODORE W. BIRNEY.

President.

MRS. FREDERIC SCHOFF, 3418 Baring Street, Philadelphia.

Recording Secretary.

MRS. JAMES S. BOLTON, New Haven, Conn.

Corresponding Secretary.

MRS. ARTHUR A. BIRNEY, 806 Loan and Trust Building, Washington, D. C.

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AIMS AND PURPOSES OF NATIONAL CONGRESS OF MOTHERS

To raise the standards of home life. To develop wiser, better-trained parenthood.

To give young people, ignorant of the proper care and training of children, opportunities to learn this, that they may better perform the duties of parenthood.

To bring into closer relations the home and the school, that parent and teacher may coöperate intelligently in the education of the child.

To surround the childhood of the whole world with that loving, wise care in the impressionable years of life, that will develop good citizens, instead of lawbreakers and criminals.

To use systematic, earnest effort to this end, through the formation of Mothers' Clubs in every Public School and elsewhere; the establishment of Kindergartens, and laws which will adequately care for neglected and dependent children, in the firm belief that united concerted work for little children will pay better than any other philanthropic work that can be done.

To carry the mother-love and mother-thought into all that concerns or touches childhood in Home, School, Church, State or Legislation.

To interest men and women to coöperate in the work for purer, truer homes, in the belief that to accomplish the best results, men and women must work together.

To secure such legislation as will ensure that children of tender years may not be tried in ordinary courts, but that each town shall establish juvenile courts and special officers, whose business it shall be to look out for that care which will rescue, instead of confirm, the child in evil ways.

To work for such probationary care in individual homes rather than institutions.

To rouse the whole community to a sense of its duty and responsibility to the blameless, dependent and neglected children, because there is no philanthropy which will so speedily reduce our taxes, reduce our prison expenses, reduce the expense of institutions for correction and reform.

The work of the Congress is civic work in its broadest and highest sense, and every man or woman who is interested in the aims of the Congress is cordially invited to become a member and aid in the organized effort for a higher, nobler national life, which can only be attained through the individual homes.